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# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**72-HOUR REPORT** 

21 MARCH 2022

## (U) CALIFORNIA

# (U) San Diego - Alleged Guatemalan Drug Kingpin Indicted Following ICE HSI Investigation

(U) A federal grand jury indictment was unsealed against an alleged Guatemalan drug kingpin accused of being a leader of a transnational criminal organization known as Los Huistas, as a result of a US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) case. Eugenio Dario Molina-Lopez, aka "Don Dario," was indicted on 29 January 2019, on charges of Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine Intended for Unlawful Importation and Conspiracy to Distribute Cocaine on Board a Vessel. Molina-Lopez remains a fugitive. The US Department of State also announced that it is offering a reward of up to \$10 million for information leading to the arrest and/or conviction of Molina-Lopez. This marks the latest indictment unsealed as part of Operation Guerrilla Unit, a multi-year investigation led by HSI and the United States Attorney's Office in San Diego that targets high-level Guatemalan drug traffickers and their suppliers.

SOURCE: 18 March 2022, DHS ICE US DOJ

# (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

## (U) California – Surreños 13 Gang Member Arrested

(U) Ocotillo – US Border Patrol agents assigned to the El Centro Sector arrested a gang member last Tuesday in the Jacumba Wilderness region. At approximately 7 a.m., agents encountered an undocumented individual who illegally entered the United States, three miles north of the US/Mexico border. The individual was arrested and transported to the El Centro Sector Processing Center to be further medically evaluated and processed accordingly. Record checks revealed this individual is a documented member of a street gang known as the Surreños (Sur-13). The individual has an extensive criminal and immigration history that includes numerous felony and misdemeanor convictions as well as multiple re-entries after deportation. This individual was previously ordered to be removed from the US by an Immigration judge.

SOURCE: 18 March 2022, US CBP

#### (U) Texas – Human smuggling attempt in a tractor-trailer Intercepted by Border Patrol Agents

(U) Laredo – USBP agents assigned to the Laredo North Station intercepted a human smuggling attempt involving a tractor-trailer north of Laredo, Texas. The incident occurred on the evening of 17 March, when agents acted on an alert of a suspicious vehicle. The tractor-trailer was traveling east towards the highway and had failed to yield to agents. Agents continued to follow the trailer when they were able to successfully bring the tractor-trailer to a stop. A search of the trailer revealed 115 individuals including three unaccompanied children from the countries of Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, and Guatemala hiding inside. All subjects were taken into custody for further investigation.

SOURCE: 18 March 2022, US CBP

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## (U) NATIONAL

# (U) Arkansas - One Person Killed and 28 Wounded in Shooting at Car Show

(U) Dumas – One man was killed and 27 people were wounded when two people got into a gunfight during a car show that's part of an annual community event, authorities said yesterday. Cameron Shaffer, 23, of Jacksonville, Arkansas, was killed in the gunfire. Six people under the age of 18 who were wounded by gunfire were taken to Arkansas Children's Hospital in Little Rock. A person who left the scene of the Saturday evening shooting has been arrested on unrelated charges and is being questioned about the shooting. Police believe there was "no mass shooting intended."

SOURCE: 20 March 2022, Associated Press CNN

# (U) Ohio - Fentanyl Released Through Vents at Juvenile Detention Center, Seven Hospitalized

(U) Williams County – Seven people were taken to the hospital yesterday after fentanyl was released through the air vents at the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention Training and Rehabilitation Center in Williams County, authorities said. Three corrections officers and four juveniles detained in the facility were taken to the hospital, according to Jeff Lehman, chief deputy for the Williams County Sheriff's Department. He added that they're stable and expected to be OK. Investigators are looking into how the fentanyl was released. Multiple fire departments, ambulances and emergency personnel were at the facility in Stryker Sunday night, including those from neighboring counties.

SOURCE: 21 March 2022, WSAZ 3

# (U) INTERNATIONAL

#### (U) Belgium - Six Killed After Car Drives into Crowd of Carnival-goers

(U) Strépy-Bracquegnies – A car drove at high-speed yesterday into dozens of people who were preparing to take part in a traditional parade. The incident happened in the small town of Strépy-Bracquegnies, about 30 miles south of the capital Brussels. At least six were killed and around 40 people were injured, and several are in a serious condition. The driver and the other people in the car have been detained. The exact circumstances of the attack are being investigated, but police said a terror attack had been ruled out.

SOURCE: 20 March 2022, BBC Reuters

#### (U) Canada – Worshippers Stop Axe Wielding Attacker at Mosque

(U) Mississauga – Police say they were called to the Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre in Ontario Saturday morning. Worshippers at the mosque confronted and restrained a man who was allegedly wielding an axe and attacked them with bear spray during Saturday morning prayers. One worshipper knocked the axe from the man's hands, and held him down until police arrived, local media reports. A 24-year-old man was arrested at the scene in the suburb of Mississauga, and he has since been charged.

SOURCE: 20 March 2022, BBC

## (U) Nigeria – Military Allegedly Kills ISWAP Leader

(U) Lake Chad – The notorious terrorist ring leader of the Islamic State of West African Province (ISWAP), Sani Shuwaram, and other members of the sect may have been killed after a sustained military airstrike in the Marte axis. PRNigeria reported that super Tucano jets and other aircraft of the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) executed multiple bombardments in the axis where Shuwaram's camps were located. Shuwaram,

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who became the leader of the group in November 2021, was said to have died from gunshot wounds he had sustained when military fighter jets raided ISWAP camp at the Sabon Tumbuns general area of Lake Chad. Media sources reported that a Mallam Bako Gorgore has been nominated as the new Wali of ISWAP to replace Shuwaram.

SOURCE: 20 March 2022, The Guardian Sahara Reporters

# (U) Saudi Arabia – Houthis Launch Multiple Strikes on Saudi Energy Sites

(U) Riyadh – Officials and State Media reported yesterday that Yemen's Iran-aligned Houthi group fired missiles and drones at Saudi energy and water desalination facilities, causing a temporary drop in output at a refinery but no casualties. Overnight Saturday and Sunday, drone strikes hit a liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant, a water desalination plant, an oil facility, and a power station across multiple locations. The Houthis took credit for the operation. Later on Sunday, another oil distribution plant was attacked in the Red Sea city of Jeddah, leading to a fire in one of the tanks. Saudi-led coalition also announced it destroyed a boat laden with explosives that belonging to the Houthis that was intent on targeting shipping in the Red Sea.

SOURCE: 20 March 2022, Reuters Al Jazeera

- (U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.
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